

STATE OF CALIFORNIA SIERRA NEVADA CONSERVANCY - RECOMMENDATION

Sierra Nevada Conservancy Grant Program Safe Drinking Water, Water Quality and Supply, Flood Control, River and Coastal Protection Act of 2006 (Proposition 84)

Subregion: NORTH-CENTRAL **County:** PLUMAS

Applicant: PLUMAS CORPORATION

Project Title: PLUMAS COUNTY TRAILS MASTER PLAN

Application Number: SNC 070343

PROJECT SCOPE

Trails for Plumas County (TPC), in cooperation with Plumas Corporation, is working to develop a non-motorized Trails Master Plan (TMP) for Plumas County, as called for in the *Plumas Vision 2020* process completed in 2001. The overall TMP development includes the migration of U.S. Forest Service mapping data and County GIS data into a new TMP database with new hardware and software; developing the Master Plan with public, user stakeholder groups, County, and USFS input; implementing the TMP through public education and outreach efforts, along with identification of priority trail projects; and marketing and promotion of the TMP to residents and tourists. Deliverables associated with the SNC-funded portion of this project include:

- Purchase of computer hardware and software to provide a centralized TMP data repository and website, to accept migrated mapping and GIS data from multiple sources;
- Creation of an educational website to facilitate downloading of scalable trail maps and other information on TMP trails. The website will include a bulletin board for information such as trail education or volunteer opportunities, trail conditions, etc.;
- Development and publishing of printed outreach materials, including brochures of popular trails and other information;
- Other outreach efforts, including advertising in trails-related publications, web blogs, etc.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve – Many popular Plumas County trails run through riparian areas and along streamsides, thereby impacting the watersheds of streams, rivers and lakes. This project would facilitate efforts to identify and remediate degraded trails and reduce watershed erosion, leading to improved water quality. Additionally, the project meets several other SNC goals, including enhancement of public use and enjoyment of public lands and support of tourism. There is strong match funding (\$26,000) for the Trails Master Plan.

LETTERS OF SUPPORT

U.S. Forest Service – Plumas National Forest (providing \$10,000 funding)
Plumas County - Board of Supervisors (providing \$6,000 funding)
Plumas County Planning & Building Services
Plumas County Transportation Commission
Feather River Land Trust

PROJECT SCHEDULE

DETAILED PROJECT DELIVERABLES	TIMELINE
Website development and launch	September 1, 2008
Purchase and training on computer hardware and software	November 1, 2008
Progress report	December 2008
Development, printing and distribution of outreach materials	February 28, 2009
Advertising, blog launch	May 31, 2009
FINAL REPORT	June 30, 2009

PROJECT COSTS

PROJECT BUDGET CATEGORIES	TOTAL SNC FUNDING
Computer hardware and software, including training	15,000
Consultant to develop interactive Website	8,000
Publisher to develop peripheral marketing materials	5,000
Advertising and other outreach	2,000
GRAND TOTAL	\$30,000

Project Summary

Trails for Plumas County (TPC) is working to create a *Trails Master Plan (TMP)* for non-motorized trails in this region, with conservation and enhancement of the Feather River watershed as one of its goals.

The *TMP* will encourage access to the forest and watershed, as well as educating the public (both residents and visitors) about the importance of nature and their impact upon its quality.

The process of developing the *Trails Master Plan* will consist of the following, the details of which are included in the **Project Proposal**:

1. Map integration & Inventory of trails
2. *TMP* Development, including:
3. *TMP* Implementation
4. *TMP* Marketing & Promotion

The *TMP* project meets the SNC's program goals in at least 5 areas. It will: increase the area's ability to attract visitors and improve recreation opportunities, encourage the healthy maintenance of the region's resources and the appreciation of them, help in the preservation of our natural resources and the working life in our area, support tourism and the economic health of the region, and open up more areas of public land to a greater variety of users.

TPC and its partner in developing the *Trails Master Plan*, Plumas Corporation, have enjoyed great community support and created many alliances to help meet our objectives and goals. These alliances encompass a diverse range of organizations and individuals in the region.

The planning and implementation of this project will necessarily include those groups and individuals who have an interest in seeing the *TMP* be a successful project over the long term.

The monetary and volunteer support that the TPC has received and that has been pledged for the future to this effort will be an integral part of the completion and ongoing focus of this project. TPC's mission and long term objectives of creating and maintaining this *TMP* in conjunction with its partners will be greatly enhanced by the support of the SNC.

TPC and Plumas Corporation request \$ 30,000 from SNC to be matched by cash (\$ 16,000) and in-kind services (\$ 10,000) to develop and publish the *Plumas County Trails Master Plan* during 2008-2009.